

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A friction bearing with a support shell and a slide layer made of a bearing metal which is applied to the support shell, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the slide layer carries a cover layer forming a running layer whose thickness corresponds at most to the wear and tear of the cover layer expected during the average service life of the slide layer.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A friction bearing according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cover layer forming the running layer differs optically from the slide layer.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A friction bearing according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cover layer consists of a sliding lacquer.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) : A friction bearing according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cover layer is covered by a sliding lacquer on the basis of graphite.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) : A friction bearing according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cover layer is covered with a sliding lacquer on the basis of molybdenum sulfide.